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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/803,445	03/09/2001	Richard V. Jessop	RVJ-P6	6914

23280 7590 09/16/2003

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EXAMINER

SHAPIRO, LEONID

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2673 Restart

10

DATE MAILED: 09/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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23566 7590 08/18/2003

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/803,445

Applicant(s)

JESSOP, RICHARD V.

Examiner

Leonid Shapiro

Art Unit

2673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 June 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 35-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 35-39 and 43-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 40-42 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 35-39, 43, 45-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sheridon (US Patent No. 5,659,330) in view of Comiskey et al. (US Patent No. 6,473,072 B1) and further in view of Lee (US Patent No. 5,181,016), and further in view of Faris (US Patent No. 5,165,013).

As to claim 35, Sheridon teaches display device comprising: a first sheet, having an outer and inner surface (See Fig. 11, item 84, in description See Col. 7, Lines 18-50); a second sheet having an outer surface and an inner surface (See Fig. 11, item 82, in description See Col. 7, Lines 18-50); one or more measures of a light-transmissive liquid (See Fig. 1, items 22, 24, in description See Col. 3, lines 38-47); a sealed space between inner surface of the first sheet and the inner surface of the second sheet, the liquid being enclosed within sealed space (See Fig. 3, items 12, 14, 17, in description See Col. 3, Lines 23-38); a power supply (See Fig. 11, item P); a microprocessor or other suitable means coupled to the power supply and the electrical elements, capable of selectively controlling the electrical potential delivered to each of electrical elements so as to create an electrical field affecting each measure of liquid, thereby inducing change in shape of affected liquid measures, and thereby causing light passing through liquid measures to be directed onto or through selected areas (See Fig. 1, 11 items 90,94,100, 102, P, in description See Col. 5, Lines 23-28 and Col.7, Lines 18-51).

Sheridon does not teach selected color areas of multi-colored light filters.

Comiskey et al. shows the drawing system permits the user to draw in multiple colors using pixilated rear line electrodes (See Fig. 14a, 14b, items 144a, 144b, 144c, in description See Col.15, Lines 8-58). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement Comiskey et al. approach in Sheridan apparatus in order to change display color on the first substrate upon activation of the switch (See Col.2, Lines 64-65).

Sheridon and Comiskey et al. do not teach a change in location of affected liquid measure and a plurality of electrical elements, located adjacent to, but electrically insulated from, each liquid measure.

Lee teaches to assist controlling movement of the dielectric drops by electrical field. (See Fig. 1, items 16, 18, 22, 32, 34, 36, in description See from Col. 3, Line 54 to Col. 4, Line 10) and a plurality of electrical elements, located adjacent to, but electrically insulated from, each liquid measure (See Fig. 1, items 18, 22, in description See Col. 3, Lines 14-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement Lee approach in Sheridan and Comiskey et al. apparatus in order to achieve confining movement of the drops (See Col. 2, Lines 22-23 in the Lee reference).

Sheridon, Comiskey et al. and Lee do not show one or both inner surfaces of light-transmissive sheets are hydrophobic.

Faris teaches hydrophobic coating (See Fig. 4A, item 9, in description See Col. 3, Lines 53-56). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement Faris approach in Sheridan, Comiskey et al. and Lee apparatus in order to achieve confining movement of the drops (See Col. 2, Lines 22-23 in the Lee reference).

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As to claim 36, Comiskey et al. teaches a light source in the device (See Col.3, Lines 35-38).

As to claims 37-38, Comiskey et al. teaches one of the sheets is light reflecting, and a plurality of multi-colored light filters are located closer to the (external) light source than is the light reflecting material. (See Col.3, Lines 35-38).

As to claim 39, Sheriton teaches a second light-transmissive liquid is immiscible with the first liquid, where one liquid is polar, and the other liquid is non-polar (See Fig. 1, items 22,24, 11,12, in description see Col.3, lines 39-47).

As to claim 43, Sheridan teaches a stylus having electrical switch electrically coupled to and capable of individually activating each of the plurality of electrical elements (See Fig. 11, items 102, 87, in description See Col. 7, Lines 18-51), and Lee teaches activation of the stylus switch and movement of stylus in proximity of the first sheet will cause any particular measure of liquid to move to a position (See Fig. 1, 16, 32, 34, 36, in description See from Col. 3, Line 54 to Col. 4, Line 10), and Comiskey et al. teaches different colors may be selectively be displayed (See Fig. 14a-14b, items 144a-144c, in description See Col. 15, Lines 8-58).

As to claim 45, Comiskey et al. teaches a means of dynamically changing the color of the light emitted by the lamp (See Fig. 14a-14b, items 144a-144c, in description See Col. 15, Lines 8-58).

As to claim 46, Lee teaches to retract the light passing through the system so as to controllably modulate the direction in which the light is emitted from the lamp (See Fig. 3, Item 66, 76, in description See Col. 5, Lines 3-46).

Fig. 13-15, items 170,172,174,180,182,184, in description See Col. 8, Lines 5-42).

2. Claim 44 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sheridan, Comiskey et al., Lee and Faris and further in view of Mumford (US Patent No. 6,377,249 B1).

Sheridon teaches a stylus having electrical switch electrically coupled to and capable of individually activating each of the plurality of electrical elements (See Fig. 11, items 102, 87, in description See Col. 7, Lines 18-51), and Lee teaches activation of the stylus switch and movement of stylus in proximity of the first sheet will cause any particular measure of liquid to move to a position (See Fig. 1, 16, 32, 34, 36, in description See from Col. 3, Line 54 to Col. 4, Line 10), and Comiskey et al. teaches different colors may be selectively be displayed (See Fig. 14a-14b, items 144a-144c, in description See Col. 15, Lines 8-58).s 5-20).

Sheridon, Comiskey et al. , Lee and Faris do not teach a stylus electrically linked to a control system as a microprocessor

Mumford teaches a stylus electrically linked to a control system as a microprocessor IC which is in turn linked to the display system (See Fig. 1, items 12,16,18.26,20, in description see Col. 6, Lines 15-30). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement Mumford approach in Sheridan, Comiskey et al. , Lee and Faris apparatus in order to change display color on the first substrate upon activation of the switch (See Col.2, Lines 64-65 in Comiskey reference).

3. Claims 40-42 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Telephone inquire

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leonid Shapiro whose telephone number is 703-305-5661. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 a.m. to 5 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on 703-305-4938. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4750.

ls

August 12, 2003



BIPIN S. MALHOTRA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600